Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PGOV, CY

SUBJECT: DENKTASH COMMENTS TO PRESS AFTER DE CUELLAR MEETING

1. "TFSC PRESIDENT" DENKTASH MET WITH SRSG DE CUELLAR AUG 29 AND ANSWERED REPORTERS' QUESTIONS AFTER THE MEETING. DENKTASH DEALT WITH THE SUBJECTS OF VAROSHA, ALLEGATIONS OF TURKISH APART-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HEID IN CYPRUS, AND THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS:

---VAROSHA: DENKTASH STATED VAROSHA IS IN THE POSSESSION OF THE TURKISH COMMUNITY "JUST AS TURKISH-OWNED PROPERTY IN THE SOUTH IS IN THE POSSESSION OF THE GREEK COMMUNITY." THE CONSTANTIA HOTEL HAS BEEN REOPENED AS A TRAINING

CENTER AND THE REPAIR AND PUTTING INTO OPERATION OF NEARBY BUILDINGS "DOES NOT ALTER THE PRINCIPLE INVOLVED." VAROSHA HAS NOT BEEN COLONIZED NOR HAVE TURKISH SECURITY FORCES OCCUPIED THE CONSTANTIA; CONSEQUENTLY, CALLING AN URGENT MEETING OF THE UNSC IS A "FRIVOLOUS ATTITUDE."

---TURKISH APARTHEID POLICY: DENKTASH DENIED THAT TURKEY HAD FOLLOWED AN APARTHEID POLICY IN CYPRUS; ON THE CONTRARY, THE TURKISH INTERVENTION HAD PREVENTED GREEK CYPRIOT GENOCIDE OF THE TURKS. "WE WAGED A STRUGGLE AGAINST GREEK CYPRIOTS BETWEEN 1963 AND 1974 SIMILAR TO THE ONE WAGED BY THE NATIVES OF SOUTH AFRICA AGAINST THE WHITES."

---INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS: "PAPADOPOULOS' STATEMENT THAT

'WE ARE READY TO BEGIN THE TALKS' IS NOT COMPATIBLE

WITH THE POSITIVE BASIS AND GOOD WILL REQUIRED FOR THE

RESUMPTION OF THE TALKS. TO ALLEGE IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL

THAT THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IS DETERIORATING CAN NOT BE CONSIDERED

A SIGN OF GOOD WILL. ALL THESE SUBJECTS WE WILL DISCUSS IN

THE CABINET NEXT WEEK."

"FOR RESOLVING THE CYPRUS PROBLEM THERE IS NO WAY OTHER THAN NEGOTIATIONS. IN OUR OPINION THE ONLY WAY IS FOR THE TWO COMMUNITIES TO HAVE TALKS AND ESTABLISH THE CONDITIONS FOR PEACEFUL EXISTENCE IN CYPRUS. HOWEVER, THE GREEK SIDE IS PREVENTING THIS. THEY ARE PREVENTING IT BY BEING UNREALISTIC AND DISRUPTING THE ATMOSPHERE REQUIRED FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TALKS. THEY ARE OBSTRUCTING BY POSING AS THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT AND DECEIVING THE WORLD WITH LYING PROPAGANDA. ALL THIS IS GOING TO BE EVALUATED. WE ARE AWAITING THE SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS."

2. COMMENT: WE NOTED THAT IN COMMENTS ON RESUMPTION OF INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS, DENKTASH IS NOW PEDDLING A SOMEWHAT SOFTER LINE THAN IN HIS PREVIOUS FLAT STATEMENT THAT TALKS WERE OFF IF MAKARIOS' SUCCESSOR PROCLAIMED HIMSELF PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS. WE SUSPECT DENKTASH STATEMENT IS MADE WITH EYE ON SC DEBATES AND DESIRE TO APPEAR MORE REASONABLE. DENKTASH'S PUBLIC REMARKS ARE A MILD REFLECTION OF HIS COMMENTS TO DE CUELLAR DURING AUG 29 MEETING.

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